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Community-Owned Forests: Possibilities,  
Experiences, and Lessons Learned (June 16-19)

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### SLIDES: Forest Grove Municipal Watershed: Using Citizen Involvement to Break Gridlock

Scott Ferguson

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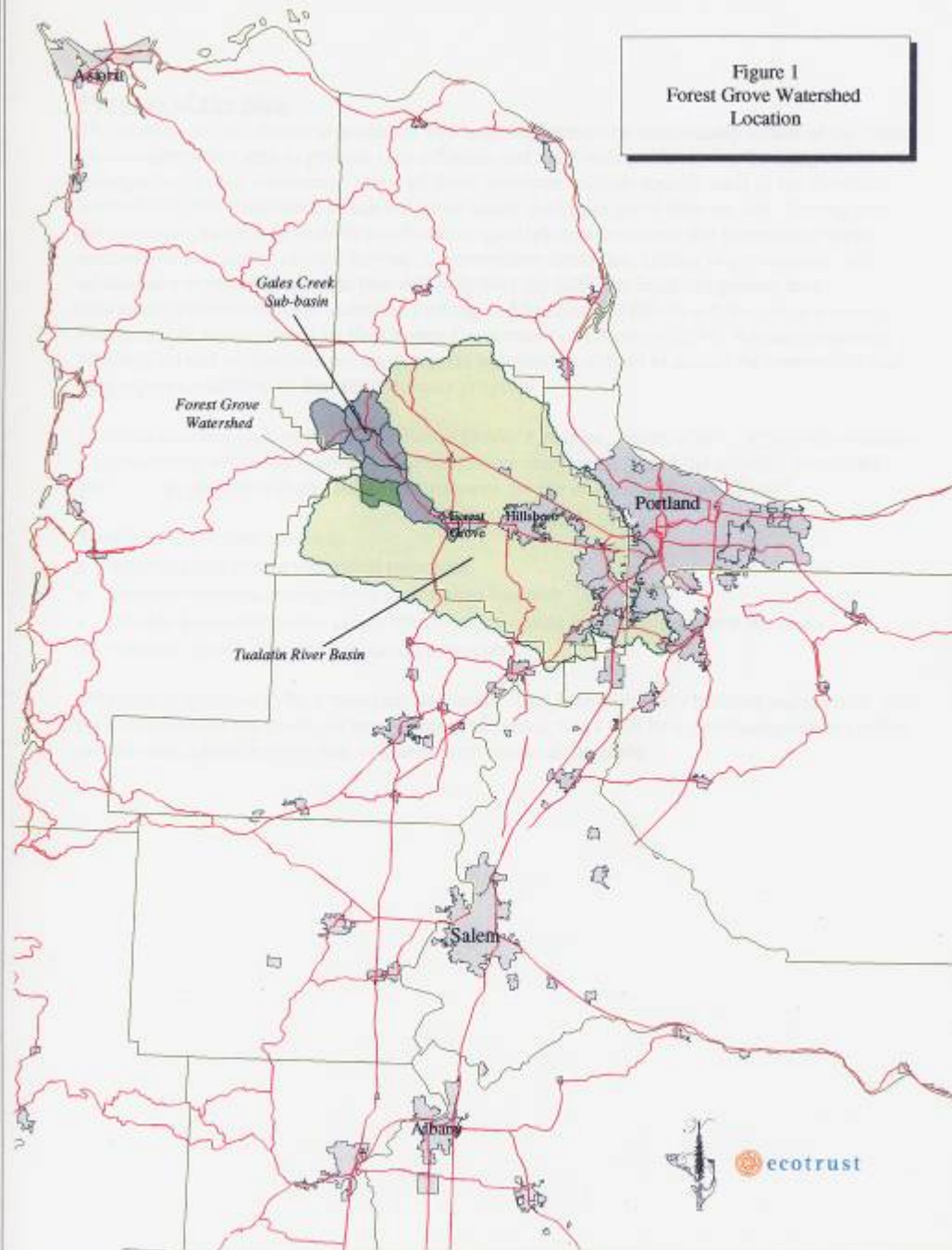
# Forest Grove Municipal Watershed

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Using Citizen Involvement  
To Break Gridlock

ITS Management - 2001

Figure 1  
Forest Grove Watershed  
Location

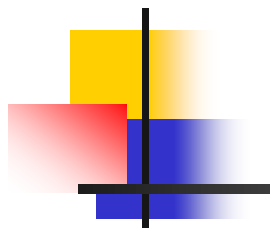




# Forest Grove Water System

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- 1st diversion in 1908
- Land acquired 1917-1945
- 4,345 forested acres
- 2-4 mg/d monthly withdrawal
- Supplies 50% of city water needs
- Low cost, higher quality water





# Forest Grove Watershed

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- Douglas-fir dominated, older forest
- Largest block in Oregon Coast Range
- 8 miles of streams
- Steelhead and Coho salmon habitat
- 4 water diversions



# Management History

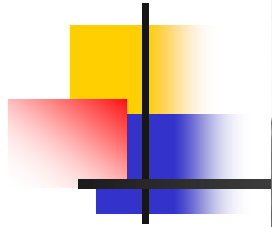
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- 1960-1977 State
- 1977-1982 public works director
- 1983-1987 Consultant
- 1987 logging suspended
- 1994 attempt to restart program
- 1996 “Pineapple Express” 100-year storm
- 2000 CAC established
- 2001 ITS prepares management plan



















# Forest Management Issues

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- Clearcutting
- Roadbuilding
- Landslides
- Sedimentation
- Herbicides
- Lost revenue
- Public access



# A new context

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- New city manager, public works manager
- Forest practice violations
- ESA considerations
- New citizen involvement approach





# Planning Process

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- Establish Citizens Advisory Committee



# Citizens Advisory Committee

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- Bob Van Dyk - PU professor
- John Minor - former city council member
- Lou Karabinus - consulting forester
- Steve Matiaco - woodlot owner
- Ray Guisiente - Chamber of Commerce chair
- Rosemary Trudeau - citizen activist
- Steve Johnson - manager for Merix Corp. (water user)
- Nancy Speiler - environmental activist, Water Resource Board member
- Victoria Lowe, activist, future city councilor

# Strong Relationships





# Planning Process

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- Establish Citizens Advisory Committee
- Empower CAC









# Planning Process

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- Establish Citizens Advisory Committee
- Empower CAC
- Hire Consultant



# Planning Process

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- Establish Citizens Advisory Committee
- Empower CAC
- Hire consultant
- Consensus decision making
- Inform/Involve Public



# Plan Elements

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- Timber, F&W, rare plant inventories
- Timber de-emphasize
- Large Reserves
- Conservative harvest levels
- Biodiversity emphasis
- Long rotations - thinning emphasis
- No clearcutting



# Recommendations

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- Fix erosion problems
- Fish passage improvements
- Owl surveys
- Yearly Harvests
- Annual net income \$350,000



# Public Acceptance

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- Frequent press coverage of planning process
- No criticism at public meeting
- 2001 League of Oregon Cities award





# Lessons learned

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- Go slow
- Involve the public
- Let go of control
- Trust public wisdom